

Notice of Service of Process

null / ALL Transmittal Number: 13438479 **Date Processed: 02/05/2015**

Primary Contact:

Barbara Ruyle

Nationstar Mortgage LLC 8950 Cypress Waters Blvd. Dallas, TX 75019

Entity:

Nationstar Mortgage LLC Entity ID Number 2050233

Entity Served:

Nationstar Mortgage, LLC

Title of Action:

Mario Alvarez vs. Nationstar Mortgage, LLC

Document(s) Type:

Summons/Complaint

Nature of Action:

Contract

Court/Agency:

Suffolk County Superior Court, Massachusetts

Case/Reference No:

Not Shown

Jurisdiction Served:

Massachusetts

Date Served on CSC:

02/05/2015

Answer or Appearance Due:

20 Days

Originally Served On:

CSC

How Served:

Personal Service

Sender Information:

Charles Carriere 617-390-2550

Information contained on this transmittal form is for record keeping, notification and forwarding the attached document(s). It does not constitute a legal opinion. The recipient is responsible for interpreting the documents and taking appropriate action.

To avoid potential delay, please do not send your response to CSC

CSC is SAS70 Type II certified for its Litigation Management System. 2711 Centerville Road Wilmington, DE 19808 (888) 690-2882 | sop@cscinfo.com

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT — You need not appear personally in court to answer the complaint, but if you claim to have a defense, either you or your attomey must serve a copy of your written answer within 20 days as specified herein and also file the original in the Clerk's Office.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

SUFFOLK, ss.		SUPERIOR COURT DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT CIVIL ACTION No.				
3	Mario Alvarez	, Plaintiff(s)				
	v.					
	Nationator Martgag	e, LLC, Defendant(s)				
	SUMMO	NS				
To the above-named	Defendant:					
•	summoned and required to serve up	on Charles Carrere				
		Street Jamaia Plan, MA, an ans				
the complaint which exclusive of the day relief demanded in th	is herewith served upon you, within of service. If you fail to do so, judg he complaint. You are also required	a 20 days after service of this summons upoment by default will be taken against you to file your answer to the complaint in the upon plaintiff's attorney or within a reason	on you, for the office			
you may have again	st the plaintiff which arises out of	ver must state as a counterclaim any claim the transaction or occurrence that is the streed from making such claim in any other a	ubject			
Witness, B	Sarbara J. Rouse, Esquire, at Bo , in the year of our Lord	0.01	day of			
		Joseph Donova				
		Clerk/Mag	gistrate			
	Deputy Etternit Suffork County Car- ursuant to Rule 4 of the Massachusetts Rules of C	ivit Procedure.				
2. When more than one defer	idant is involved, the names of all defendants should	appear in the caption. If a separate summons is used for each	defendant,			

- 3. TO PLAINTIFF'S ATTORNEY: PLEASE CIRCLE TYPE OF ACTION INVOLVED
 - (1) TORT (2) MOTOR VEHICLE TORT (3) CONTRACT (4) EQUITABLE RELIEF (5) OTHER

each should be addressed to the particular defendant.

4881MS

PROOF OF SERVICE OF PROCESS

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Dated:_		,201					,	
N	PLEASE	CESS SERVEI PLACE DATE OX ON THE OF	YOU MAKE	E SERV	/ICE ON	N DEFEN SERVE	IDANT IN D ON DEF	ENDANT.
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Commonwealth of Massachusetts	FOLK, ss. SUPERIOR COURT DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT CIVIL ACTION No.	Merio Alwass., PIff(s).	V. A.		SUMMONS	(Mass. R. Civ. P. 4) (AFFIX FILING STAMP HERE)		

CIVIL ACTION COVER SHEET		OF MASSACHUSETT URT DEPARTME		DOCKET NO)	
	COUNTY OF	DEFENDANT(<u>'e</u> \			
PLAINTIFF(S) Mario Alum				vartyo	well c	
Plaintiff Atty Charles Car	rleve	Type Defe	ndant's Atto	rney Name		
Address 122 Boyleton S		Defendant	Atty			
City Januica Plus State W		Address City		State	Zip Code	
Tel. 617-390-2550 BB	·				٠.	
TYPE O	F ACTION AND TRAC		ION (See re	verse side)		
CODE NO. TYPE OF ACTI	ION (specify) TRA	CK				JURY CASE?
€99					Æ]Yes (₫] No
The following is a full, itemized a money damages. For this form, o	nd detailed statemen lisregard double or t	t of the fact reble damag	s on which ge claims;	plaintiff indicate s	relies to dete ingle damage	rmine es only.
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Provide a detailed description of	(Attach additiona	CT CLAIM I sheets as n	S ecessary)			
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PLEASE IDENTIFY, BY CASE NUMB COURT DEPARTMENT						
"I hereby certify that I have complied with t Rule 1:18) requiring that I provide my clien advantages and disadvantages of the various Signature of Attorney of Record A.O.S.C. 3-2007	ts with information about c	of the Supreme J Jourt-connected	dispute resolu	tion services	ules on Dispute R and discuss with	esolution (SJC them the

CIVIL ACTION COVER SHEET INSTRUCTIONS SELECT CATEGORY THAT BEST DESCRIBES YOUR CASE

* CONTRACTS

* REAL PROPERTY

MISCELLANEOUS

444	O : Labara and Matariala El		C01	Land Taking (eminent domain)	(F)	E02	Appeal from Administrative	- 1
	Services, Labor and Materials F)		C02	Zoning Appeal, G.L. c.40A	(F)		• • • •	w l
	Goods Sold and Delivered	(F)				ļ	Agency G.L. c. 30A	(X)
	Commercial Paper	(F)	C03	Dispute concerning title	(F)	E03	Claims against Commonwealth	
80A	Sale or Lease of Real Estate	(F)	<u>Ç04</u>	Foreclosure of mortgage	(X)	ł	or Municipality	(A)
A12	Construction Dispute	(A)	C05	Condominium'Lien & Charges	(X)	E05	Confirmation of Arbitration Awards	(X)
A99	Other (Specify)	(F)	C33 · ·	Other (Specify)	(F)	E07	G.L. c.112, s.12S (Mary Moe)	(X)
E03	Claims against Commonwealth	(A)	E03	Claims against Commonwealth	(A)	E08	Appointment of Receiver	(X)
١.	<u>-</u>			or Municipality		E09	General Contractor bond,	
1	or Municipality						G.L. c. 149, ss. 29, 29a	(A)
1				EQUITABLE REMEDIES		l_,,		
1			D01	Specific Performance of Contract	(A)	E11	Worker's Compensation	(X)
1	*TORT	•	D02	Reach and Apply	(F)	E12	G.L.c.123A, s.12 (SDP Commitment)	(X)
B03	Motor Vehicle Negligence	(F)	D06	Contribution or Indemnification	(F)	E14	G.L. c. 123A, s. 9 (SDP Petition)	-:
1.	personal injury/property damage	'	D07	Imposition of a Trust	(A)	E15 "	Abuse Petition, G. L. c. 209A	(X)
B04	Other Negligence-	(F)	D08	Minority Stockholder's Suit	(A)	I.	Auto Surcharge Appeal	
	personal injury/property damage		D10	Accounting	(A)	E16		(X)
	Products Liability	(Å)	D12	Dissolution of Partnership	(F).	E17	Civil Rights Act. G.L. c.12, s. 11H	(A)
	Malpractice-MedicaL	(A)	1 -	Declaratory Judgment G.L. c. 231A	(A)	E18	Foreign Discovery Proceeding	(X)
L	•		D13	1171 1242 37 7 2 1 1 1 1 1	(5)	E19	Sex Offender Registry G.L. c. 178M,	;
B07	Malpractice-Other (Specify)	(A)	D99	Other (Specify)	(1-)		s. 6	(X)
	Wrongful Death, G.L. c.229, s.24					E21	Protection from Harassment c 258E	(X)
	Defamation (Libel-Slander)	(A)	١.			E25	Plural Registry (Asbestos cases)	17.7
B19	Asbestos	(A)		and the second second		E95	**Forfeiture G.L. c. 94C, s. 47	(F)
B20	Personal Injury-slip & fall			and the bear of the second	٠	E96	Prisoner Cases	(F)
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B99	Other (Specify)	(F)				Eaa	Other (Specify)	(~)
	Claims against Commonwealth	(A)	l ·					
	11.							

*Claims against the Commonwealth of a municipality are type E03, Average Track, cases.
**Claims filed by the Commonwealth pursuant to G L c 94C, s 47 Forfeiture cases are type
E95, Fast track.

TRANSFER YOUR SELECTION TO THE FACE SHEET.

- 18

EXAMPLE:

GODE NO. TYPE OF ACTION (SPECIFY)

B03 Motor Vehicle Negligence-Personal Injury

TRACK

IS THIS A JURY CASE?

[X] Yes

SUPERIOR COURT RULE 29

DUTY OF THE PLAINTIFF. The plaintiff or his/her counsel shall set forth, on the face sheet (or attach additional sheets as necessary), a statement specifying in full and itemized detail the facts upon which the plaintiff then relies as constituting money damages. A copy of such civil action cover sheet, including the statement as to the damages, shall be served on the defendant together with the complaint. If a statement of money damages, where appropriate is not filed, the Clerk-Magistrate shall transfer the action as provided in Rule 29(5)(C).

DUTY OF THE DEFENDANT. Should the defendant believe the statement of damages filed by the plaintiff in any respect inadequate, he or his counsel may file with the answer a statement specifying in reasonable detail the potential damages which may result should the plaintiff prevail. Such statement, if any, shall be served with the answer.

A CIVIL ACTION COVER SHEET MUST BE FILED WITH EACH COMPLAINT.

FAILURE TO COMPLETE THIS COVER SHEET THOROUGHLY AND ACCURATELY MAY RESULT IN DISMISSAL OF THIS ACTION.

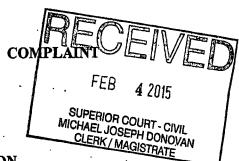
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

SUFFOLK, ss SUPERIOR COURT DEPARTMENT CIVIL ACTION NO. TRIAL COURT

MARIO ALVAREZ Plaintiff,

v

NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE, LLC Defendant.



I. INTRODUCTION

This case arises from Nationstar Mortgage, LCC's failure to review the Plaintiff, Mario Alvarez, for a loan modification for his first mortgage as required by the National Mortgage Settlement and by An Act Preventing Unlawful and Unnecessary Foreclosures.

In March 2005, Mr. Alvarez took out two mortgages with Argent Mortgage Corporation to purchase his family home at 19 Hillis Road, Hyde Park, MA 02136. At the time, Mr. Alvarez earned \$2,500 per month as a Whole Foods cashier. Although Mr. Alvarez was honest about his income, Argent Mortgage Corporation originated two loans that would result in combined monthly mortgage expenses exceeding \$3,050.00. At closing, Mr. Alvarez voiced concerns about the payment costs, but was reassured that he could get lower payments within six months of origination. This promise turned out to be false, and Mr. Alvarez was unable to pay his mortgage payments. A subsequent loan modification, only on Mr. Alvarez's first mortgage, increased Mr. Alvarez's principal balance by \$34,645.32 and failed to achieve an affordable payment.

In the wake of the foreclosure crisis, the attorneys general of forty-nine states, including the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, entered into a landmark settlement with Bank of America that

required Bank of America to modify certain borrowers' mortgage loans if a loan modification was in the interest of the investor that owned the loan. The Defendant Nationstar, acting as a servicing agent for Bank of America, sent Mr. Alvarez a letter dated August 15, 2013, stating its determination that Mr. Alvarez met the preliminary criteria "required to apply" for a loan modification under the National Mortgage Settlement loan modification program ("Settlement modification program"). Mr. Alvarez responded to this notice by providing necessary information. Shortly thereafter, Nationstar responded with a facially invalid loan modification denial stating that "NPV [Net Present Value] results showed that the modification is not in the interest of the investor that owns the loan." Nationstar had not in fact conducted a Net Present Value ("NPV") analysis comparing the likely return from a loan modification with the likely return from foreclosure, because the data input sheet that Nationstar provided with the denial was blank for the critical inputs necessary to conduct such an analysis. A review of Mr. Alvarez's financial circumstances at the time suggests a Net Present Value-positive outcome for a loan modification, meaning that a loan modification would have been in the interest of the investor that owned Mr. Alvarez's loan. Mr. Alvarez timely appealed this loan modification denial describing the problem, but Nationstar provided no response.

In a letter dated October 4, 2013, Nationstar advised Mr. Alvarez of his "Right to Request a Modified Mortgage Loan," as required by An Act Preventing Unlawful and Unnecessary Foreclosures, M.G.L. c. 244, § 35B. Mr. Alvarez timely responded to this request. Section 35B sets forth procedural and substantive requirements that a lender must demonstrate to show they have made a "good faith effort" to avoid foreclosure, including a requirement that they consider "the net present value of receiving payments under a modified mortgage loan as compared to the anticipated net recovery following foreclosure" and offer a loan modification "in all

circumstances where the net present value of the modified mortgage loan exceeds the anticipated net recovery at foreclosure." In numerous ways, Nationstar flouted Section 35B's requirements.

First, Nationstar refused to accept Mr. Alverez's loan modification application. A Nationstar representative stated that it was Nationstar's general policy not to open an application received by mail without *also* receiving a phone call, in plain violation of Section 35B and in direct contradiction of Nationstar's own instructions provided in its October 4, 2013 letter. This policy would operate to disqualify all borrowers from a loan modification review even if they followed Nationstar's own instructions in the Section 35B notice and did what was required to respond to the notice under Section 35B. Next, Nationstar issued a loan modification denial that violated Section 35B by failing to provide an assessment including "a written statement of the borrower's income, debts, and obligations... the creditor's net present value analysis of the mortgage loan... the creditor's anticipated net recover at foreclosure... [and] a statement of the interests of the creditor." The denial reflected that Nationstar had not conducted a net present value analysis to determine whether a loan modification was in the interest of the investor who owned the loan, a determination required by M.G.L. c. 244, § 35B.

In violation of both the National Mortgage Settlement loan modification program and Section 35B, Nationstar has repeatedly refused to consider whether offering Mr. Alvarez an affordable loan modification is in the best interest of the investor that owns the loan. In bringing this lawsuit, Mr. Alvarez requests that this court compel Nationstar to review Mr. Alvarez as required under the Settlement and Section 35B, and to award damages, costs, and attorneys' fees.

II. PARTIES

- 1. Plaintiff, Mario Alvarez, resides at 19 Hillis Road, Hyde Park, MA 02136.
- 2. Defendant, Nationstar Mortgage, LLC ("Nationstar") is a Delaware limited liability

company. Nationstar has a business address at 8950 Cypress Waters Boulevard, Dallas, TX 75063, and its registered agent is the Corporation Service Company, 84 State Street, Boston, MA 02109. Nationstar is engaged in the "trade or commerce" of the acquisition, ownership, management, and servicing of mortgage loans, and engaged in the acts described herein in the conduct of said trade.

III. JURISDICTION

- 3. Mr. Alvarez requests equitable relief requiring Nationstar to conduct a Net Present Value test under the National Mortgage Settlement loan modification program and to conduct a compliant loan modification review under M.G.L. c. 244, § 35B, and enjoining Nationstar from proceeding with the foreclosure sale of his home. This court has subject matter jurisdiction over all cases where the plaintiff seeks equitable relief. M.G.L. c. 214, § 1.
- 4. This court may exercise personal jurisdiction over a person who transacts business or has an interest in real property within the state. M.G.L. c. 223(A), § 3. This court has personal jurisdiction over Nationstar because it transacts business or asserts an interest in property within the state.

IV. VENUE

5. A plaintiff seeking equitable relief may bring a civil action in any county where a transitory action between the parties may be brought. M.G.L. c. 214, § 5. Venue is proper here because the Plaintiff resides in Suffolk County. M.G.L. c. 223, § 1.

VI. STATEMENT OF FACTS

6. In March 2005, Mr. Alvarez entered into a first mortgage with Argent Mortgage Company for \$287,200 to purchase his family home at 19 Hillis Road, Hyde Park, MA 02136.
Registry of Deeds, Bk 37004, p. 165.

- 7. The purchase price for the home was \$359,000.
- 8. This first mortgage (\$287,200), along with a second mortgage (\$71,800), financed the purchase of the property.
- 9. At the time that Mr. Alvarez received the mortgage, he was working as a cashier at Whole Foods making approximately \$2,500 per month.
- Despite this, the transaction resulted in monthly housing expenses exceeding \$3,050, \$550
 more than Mr. Alvarez's total gross income.
- 11. Before closing, Mr. Alvarez asked about the affordability of his payments and was assured that he would get lower payments within six months of origination.
- 12. Although he followed up six months later, Mr. Alvarez was not offered a loan with more affordable payments.
- 13. In November 2009, a loan modification of Mr. Alvarez's first mortgage provided by Wilshire Credit Corporation temporarily lowered Mr. Alvarez's monthly payments by approximately \$700 per month.
- 14. The modification also increased Mr. Alvarez's principal balance by \$34,645.32, from \$287,200 to \$321.845.32.
- 15. This modification left Mr. Alvarez with monthly housing expenses (including the second mortgage payment, taxes, and insurance) of approximately \$2140 per month.
- 16. This amount was still well in excess of Mr. Alvarez's ability to pay, and as a result, Mr. Alvarez was unable to make payments under the loan modification.
- 17. In a letter dated August 15, 2013, Nationstar informed Mr. Alvarez that he met "the criteria required to apply" for the National Mortgage Settlement loan modification program ("Settlement program").

- 18. The letter stated that "[q]ualifying customers will receive a significant principal reduction and may reduce their monthly payment up to 39%," and stated "you must apply for this modification to see if you qualify."
- Nationstar was obligated to send this offer to Mr. Alvarez as a sub-servicer or transferee servicer of Bank of America.
- 20. The Settlement program described in the August 15, 2013 letter has a specific set of guidelines described in a publicly available Bank of America Consent Judgment. See Consent Judgment, U.S. v. Bank of America Corp., No. 12-cv-00361-RMC (D.D.C. Apr. 4, 2012).
- 21. Under these guidelines, a servicer is not required to offer a loan modification if the modification is not in the interest of the investor that owns the loan (also called a "Net Present Value" (NPV) negative outcome).
- 22. To determine whether a loan modification is in the interest of the investor, the servicer must conduct an NPV analysis comparing the likely recovery an investor would receive from foreclosure with the likely recovery the investor would receive through a loan modification.
- 23. Mr. Alvarez responded to Nationstar's offer by providing his private financial information to Nationstar.
- 24. In a letter dated August 27, 2013, Nationstar acknowledged receipt of Mr. Alvarez's application for a modification under the Settlement program, and again stated that "[t]his modification could offer you significant principal reduction and low payments."
- 25. In a letter dated September 6, 2013, Nationstar stated that Mr. Alvarez was "not eligible for a loan modification, because the NPV results showed that the modification is not in the

- interest of the investor that owns the loan.".
- 26. It was apparent from the denial letter that Nationstar had in fact conducted no NPV analysis, because the NPV input sheet that Nationstar provided included no values for a proposed loan modification, which would make any NPV analysis impossible.
- 27. A review of Mr. Alvarez's financials by the undersigned counsel using an NPV program provided by the United States Department of the Treasury to "to assist homeowners in conducting a net present value (NPV) evaluation" at Checkmynpv.com, concluded that a loan modification was in the interest of the investor that owned Mr. Alvarez's loan.
- 28. Checkmynpv.com uses the same NPV Model used for the National Mortgage Settlement Loan Modification Program.
- 29. The September 6, 2013 denial letter stated that "[i]f you wish to dispute the reasons for a non-approval determination, please submit written evidence to...
 La.Tesha.Brewton@Nationstarmail.com."
- 30. In a letter dated September 30, 2013 that was emailed to
 "La.Tesha.Brewton@Nationstarmail.com," the undersigned counsel disputed Nationstar's
 September 6, 2013 loan modification denial.
- 31. Nationstar did not respond to the September 30, 2013 letter.
- 32. In a letter dated October 4, 2013 ("Modification Letter"), Nationstar advised Mr. Alvarez of his "Right to Request a Modified Mortgage Loan," as required by An Act Preventing Unlawful and Unnecessary Foreclosures, M.G.L. c. 244, § 35B.
- 33. Mr. Alvarez responded to this solicitation as required by M.G.L. c. 244, § 35B with a complete loan modification package on November 1, 2013.
- 34. On January 6, 2014, in a phone call with Nationstar, a representative named Chelsea

- (identification number 0586) claimed that no loan modification file had been opened for Mr. Alvarez, because as a matter of policy Nationstar does not start the loan modification process until it receives a phone call from the borrower.
- 35. Chelsea then reviewed the documents Mr. Alvarez had submitted, and stated that she would need new financial documents to review Mr. Alvarez's application.
- 36. These documents were provided to Nationstar as attachments to a letter dated January 14,2014.
- 37. On January 21, 2014, a Nationstar representative named Sarah requested additional information from Mr. Alvarez and stated that Nationstar had not sent any written summary of what it needed to complete Mr. Alvarez's application.
- 38. In a letter dated January 23, 2014, Nationstar requested an "Award letter of benefits statement."
- 39. The information that Nationstar requested was provided to Nationstar in a letter dated January 28, 2014.
- 40. In a letter dated February 14, 2014, Nationstar stated that Mr. Alvarez did "not meet the HAMP program guidelines because: Insufficient Monthly Payment Reduction. We are unable to offer you a Home Affordable Modification because in performing our underwriting of a potential modification, we could not reduce your principal and interest payment by at least 10%."
- 41. In a letter dated February 25, 2014, Nationstar stated that "we have reviewed your request for assistance and are unable to grant your request at this time" due to "Negative Disposable Income. We are unable to offer you a modification because we are unable to create an affordable payment within the program terms."

- 42. In a letter dated March 13, 2014, the undersigned counsel requested a response to the previous inquiry dated September 30, 2013, and also requested disclosures for the February 14, 2014 and February 25, 2014 loan modification denial letters required under M.G.L. c. 244, § 35B.
- 43. To date, Nationstar has provided no response to this inquiry.
- 44. In a follow-up letter dated March 31, 2014, sent pursuant to 12 C.F.R. § 1024.36, the undersigned counsel requested information concerning Nationstar's efforts to respond to the September 30, 2013 letter and an explanation for why Nationstar claimed to have conducted an NPV analysis in its September 6, 2013 letter when its NPV input sheet had no values for a proposed loan modification.
- 45. Nationstar did not respond to the March 31, 2014 inquiry.
- 46. In a letter dated July 14, 2014 sent pursuant to M.G.L. c. 93A, § 9, the undersigned counsel described the actions that Nationstar had made in violation of Massachusetts law and made a demand for relief.
- 47. In a letter dated July 31, 2014, Nationstar responded to the notice without offering any form of relief or responding to the majority of the factual allegations stated in the demand letter.

VII. CAUSES OF ACTION

Violation of Mr. Alvarez's Rights Under "An Act Preventing Unlawful and Unnecessary Foreclosures," M.G.L. c. 244, § 35B

- 48. Mr. Alvarez reasserts and realleges each and every allegation set forth in the above paragraphs as if fully set forth herein.
- 49. M.G.L. c. 244, § 35B requires creditors to observe special protections for borrowers before

- proceeding with publication of a notice of a foreclosure sale for "certain mortgage loans," and to offer a loan modification if it is in the interest of the investors that hold the loan.
- 50. "Certain mortgage loans" include: loans originated as part of a transaction where the combined loan-to-value ratio exceeded 95% at origination. *Id.* § 35B(a)(vii).
- 51. Mr. Alvarez's mortgage falls under the purview of M.G.L. c. 244, § 35B, because it was originated in a mortgage transaction in which the combined loan-to-value ratio exceeded 95%.
- 52. Nationstar initiated the process prescribed by M.G.L. c. 244, § 35B(c) by issuing a Notice of Right to Apply for a Modified Mortgage Loan to Mr. Alvarez.
- 53. Mr. Alvarez timely complied with the requirements of the notice by submitting a complete loan modification application.
- 54. Nationstar has violated "An Act Preventing Unlawful and Unnecessary Foreclosures,"

 M.G.L. c. 244, § 35B, by failing to take procedural and substantive steps laid out under the statute which are designed to facilitate loan modification review and avoid unnecessary foreclosures.
- 55. Before publishing a notice of a foreclosure sale, the creditor must show that it has "first taken reasonable steps and made a good faith effort to avoid foreclosure" by considering "the net present value of receiving payments under a modified mortgage loan as compared to the anticipated net recovery following foreclosure," M.G.L. c. 244, § 35B(b)(ii), and "agree[ing] to modify the loan" "in all circumstances where the net present value of the modified mortgage loan exceeds the anticipated recovery at foreclosure..." M.G.L. c. 244, § 35(b)(2)(iv).
- 56. To comply with M.G.L. c. 244, § 35B(c), creditors must provide a written assessment

within thirty days of receiving a borrower's notification of his or her intent to pursue a loan modification. *Id.* This written assessment shall include, *inter alia*, "(i) a written statement of the borrower's income, debts and obligations as determined by the creditor; (ii) the creditor's net present value analysis of the Mortgage loan; (iii) the creditor's anticipated net recovery at foreclosure; [and] (iv) a statement of the interests of the creditor...." *Id.*

- 57. Nationstar has violated M.G.L. c. 244, § 35B in the following ways:
 - i. Nationstar imposes an undisclosed requirement that all borrowers who receive notices under M.G.L. c. 244, § 35B must not only submit documentation by mail as directed in the notice, but must also call Nationstar to open a loan modification application even though this requirement is not permitted under the law.
 - ii. Nationstar has not conducted an assessment of Mr. Alvarez's ability to make an affordable monthly payment. M.G.L. c. 244, § 35B(b)(i).
 - iii. Nationstar has not considered "the net present value of receiving payments under a modified mortgage loan as compared to the anticipated net recovery following foreclosure." M.G.L. c. 244, § 35B(b)(ii).
 - iv. Nationstar has not considered "the interests of the creditor, including, but not limited to, investors." M.G.L. c. 244, § 35B(b)(iii).
 - v. Nationstar failed to respond within 30 days to Mr. Alvarez's loan modification application, sent in response to the Section 35B notice." M.G.L. c. 244, § 35B(c).
 - vi. Nationstar's loan modification denial letter failed to provide "(i) a written statement of the borrower's income, debts and obligations as determined by the creditor; (ii) the creditor's net present value analysis of the mortgage loan; (iii) the creditor's anticipated net recovery at foreclosure; [and] (iv) a statement of the

- interests of the creditor..." M.G.L. c. 244, § 35B(c).
- vii. Nationstar failed to review Mr. Alvarez's loan modification application within "five business days following receipt of the borrower's request for a modified mortgage loan." 209 CMR 56.07.
- viii. Nationstar failed to provide a notice within five business days following receipt of the loan modification application acknowledging receipt of the application and identifying any additional information required to complete the application. *Id*.
- 58. As a result of Nationstar's actions, Mr. Alvarez suffered injuries including emotional distress and associated medical costs, lost time, and additional fees and interest that Nationstar now demands to cure his default.
- 59. In light of Nationstar's disregard for the simple requirements of M.G.L. c. 244, § 35B, Mr. Alvarez requests that the court order Nationstar to conduct a compliant loan modification review as required by the statute using the information that Mr. Alvarez has already provided, and to award Mr. Alvarez actual, consequential, statutory, and punitive damages, costs, and attorney's fees.

Count II: Violation of Federal Regulations

- 60. Mr. Alvarez reasserts and re-alleges each and every allegation set forth in the above paragraphs as if fully set forth herein.
- 61. Nationstar has violated various federal regulations designed to ensure that borrowers are afforded a fair loan modification review. These violations include:
 - i. Failing to comply with 12 CFR 1024(b)(2), which requires a servicer to "[n]otify the borrower in writing within 5 days... after receiving the loss mitigation application that the servicer acknowledges receipt of the loss mitigation application and that the

servicer has determined that the loss mitigation application is either complete or incomplete. If a loss mitigation application is incomplete, the notice shall state the additional documents and information the borrower must submit to make the loss mitigation application complete."

- ii. Nationstar failed to comply with 12 C.F.R. 1024.41(h), which allows borrowers who receive a loan modification denial to appeal the servicer's determination, requires the appeal be reviewed "by different personnel than those responsible for evaluating the borrower's complete loss mitigation application," and requires the servicer to respond to the appeal request within "30 days of a borrower making an appeal."
- iii. Nationstar failed to conduct an investigation or issue a response to Mr. Alvarez's March 31, 2014 inquiry sent pursuant to 12 C.F.R. § 1024.36.
- iv. In its February 25, 2014 denial letter, Nationstar failed to comply with 12 C.F.R. 1024.41(d), which requires that a denial state "the specific reason or reasons for the servicer's [loan modification denial] determination." Nationstar provided a reason so vague that it could describe nearly any homeowner, denied for a loan modification for nearly any reason.
- 62. As a result of Nationstar's actions, Mr. Alvarez suffered injuries including emotional distress and associated medical costs, lost time, and additional fees and interest that Nationstar now demands to cure his default.
- 63. In light of Nationstar's unlawful conduct, Mr. Alvarez is entitled to recover actual, consequential, statutory, and punitive damages, costs, and attorney's fees.

Count III:

Violation of the Massachusetts Consumer Protection Act, Mass. Gen. Laws c. 93A, § 2

64. Plaintiff reasserts and realleges each and every allegation set forth in the above paragraphs

- as if fully set forth herein.
- 65. The Massachusetts Consumer Protection Act, Mass. Gen. Laws c. 93A, § 2(a), declares "unfair or deceptive acts or practices in the conduct of any trade or commerce" to be unlawful.
- 66. Relevant to the present case, Massachusetts' Supreme Judicial Court has held that conduct deemed "unfair" within the meaning of c. 93A includes:
 - a. Acts "within the penumbra of a common law, statutory, or other established concept of unfairness," Milliken & Co. v. Duro Textiles, LLC, 451 Mass. 547, 563 (2008).
 - b. Acts that are "immoral, unethical, oppressive, or unscrupulous," id; and
 - c. Acts taken "in disregard of known contractual arrangements and intended to secure benefits for the breaching party," *Anthony's Pier Four, Inc. v. HBC Associates*, 411 Mass. 451, 474 (1991) (internal citations omitted).
- 67. The Attorney General's regulations promulgated pursuant to the Massachusetts Consumer Protection Act declare to be unfair and deceptive in violation of c. 93A:
 - a. Acts that fail to comply with existing statutes, rules, regulations or laws, meant for the protection of the public's health, safety, or welfare promulgated by the
 Commonwealth, 940 C.M.R. 3.16(3); and
 - b. Acts that violate any Federal consumer protection statutes within the purview of M.G.L. c. 93A, s. 2, id. § 3.16(4).
- 68. As set forth above, Nationstar's conduct has been unfair and deceptive in many ways, including, but not limited to:
 - a. Purporting to review Mr. Alvarez for the National Mortgage Settlement loan modification program, a program for which they were obligated to conduct a review,

- and collecting private financial information from Mr. Alvarez under the pretense of this review, but failing to review him for the program.
- b. Imposing a requirement that all borrowers who receive notices under M.G.L. c. 244, § 35B must not only submit documentation by mail as directed in the notice but must also call Nationstar to open a loan modification application even though this requirement is not permitted under the law. This practice is also unfair and deceptive, because Nationstar fails to disclose this requirement to borrowers in its Section 35B notice.
- violating the state and federal laws and regulations set forth in the other counts of this complaint.
- d. Violating 209 CMR 18.21, which states that "failing to comply with the provisions of M.G.L. c. § 35A, 35B and 35C" (emphasis added) qualifies as "unfair or unconscionable" mortgage servicing.
- 69. As a result of Nationstar's actions, Mr. Alvarez suffered injuries including emotional distress and associated medical costs, lost time, and additional fees and interest that Nationstar now demands to cure his default.
- 70. In light of Nationstar's unlawful conduct, Alvarez is entitled to recover actual, consequential, statutory, and punitive damages, costs, and attorney's fees. Because these violations were willful or knowing, Alvarez is entitled to multiple damages. Mass. Gen. Laws c. 93A, § 9(c).

PLAINTIFF'S DEMAND TRIAL BY JURY ON ALL CLAIMS SO TRIABLE.

Wherefore, Plaintiff requests that the Court, after Trial by Jury, enter and adjudge as follows:

- (i) Determine that Nationstar is liable to Alvarez upon Alvarez's claims, and award actual, consequential, punitive, and statutory damages as determined by the jury or as the Court may deem appropriate;
- (ii) Enjoin Nationstar from taking any action to sell Alvarez's home at a foreclosure auction and order that any scheduled foreclosure auctions are cancelled;
- (iii) Require Nationstar to conduct a NPV test for a National Mortgage Settlement loan modification, and offer Mr. Alvarez a loan modification if the result is NPV-positive.
- (iv) Order Nationstar to review Mr. Alvarez for a loan modification as required under

 Mass. Gen. Laws c. 244, § 35B using the information that Mr. Alvarez has provided;
- (v) Award costs and attorney's fees; and
- (vi) Grant such other and further relief as merited in the interests of justice.

Respectfully submitted,

Mario Alvarez

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